

June 24, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Beth McCann

Deputy Director

Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo

bmccann@kalamazooarts.org

269.342.5059



The 2015 Community Arts Award Winners Announced

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2015 Community Arts Awards.

Community Medal of Arts	Sidney Ellis
Community Medal of Arts	Jon Reeves
Community Medal of Arts	Bob Rowe
Community Medal of Arts	Cathie Weir
Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service	Nancy Springgate Kushner
Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award	Kirsten Sluyter
Epic Award	Kalamazoo Book Arts
Award for Arts Leadership	Don Dillon III
Award for Arts Leadership	Fred Sang

The awards will be presented on Sunday, July 19th at the Sunday Concerts in the Park in Bronson Park. The Sunday Concert, in collaboration with the Stulberg International String Competition, will feature the 2009 Stulberg Gold Medalist, Double Bassist Nicholas Schwartz. The event begins at 4:00 p.m. with the award presentation at 4:30 p.m. The Concert and Presentation Ceremony are free and open to the public. A ticketed reception will follow the Concert and Presentation at the Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. Reservations can be made by calling the Arts Council at 269.342.5059 or bmccann@kalamazooarts.org. Tickets are \$10.

“The recipients of this year’s Community Arts Awards are truly dedicated to the Arts – whether it is creating, inspiring or teaching - these individuals and organizations contribute so much to the creative quality of life in Kalamazoo”, states Beth McCann, Deputy Director of the Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo.

Community Medal of Arts

The CMA recognizes an artist who is a leader in their field, has a significant body of creative activity, who has received local and/or national acclaim, and has impacted on our community through art. This award

encompasses all art forms, including but not limited to visual, musical, theatrical, literary, performing, multi-media, architecture or design.

Theodore C. Cooper Award for Distinguished Volunteer Service

The recipient is to be a person, persons or group whose lives exemplify a broad range of service to the arts community that is not related to his/her professional occupation. The distinguished volunteer award may be given to any person or married couple.

Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award

The Adam F. Carter Young Artist Award is designed to recognize and encourage the next generation of artists in our community. The winner is an incoming high school senior who has had an impact both in their field of study and in our community and is nominated by their arts teacher, director, or a community member. This award is generously supported by the Mary and Brooks Godfrey Family.

Epic Award

The Epic Award recognizes a non-profit organization or program within Kalamazoo County that is of high artistic quality and serves to enhance life in our community through the arts. The award pays special attention to both long standing programs and organizations that have played a consistent role in the community and new organizations and programs that meet a previously unmet community need or focus area.

Arts Leadership Award

The Arts Leader is an arts educator or arts administrator. The nominee is a recognized leader in the arts and/or the education community with an impact beyond his/her job description, a strong impact on the community through art, and positive and productive relationships in the community outside of his/her institution.

“The Arts Council is so excited to collaborate with the Stulberg for this concert. It is an honor to have such a distinguished young musician with us for the Community Arts Awards”, says McCann. “It will be an exceptional concert and a wonderful way to honor the recipients. We hope that our community will attend the concert and show their appreciation of these honorees.”

Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra double bassist, **Nicholas Santangelo Schwartz** has already distinguished himself as one of the best bassists of his generation. He was one of the youngest winners ever of the International Society of Bassists Solo Competition, also receiving the Commission Prize. A few months prior, Nicholas was the first and only bassist to receive the Gold Medal and the Bach Prize in the Stulberg International String Competition. Since then he has won the USA International Music Competition's College Division competition and has appeared as a guest artist at the Texas Double Bass symposium. Radio broadcasts include many occasions on “Radio 4” in the Netherlands, a solo appearance on America’s National Public Radio’s “From the Top” as well as a recital at the Dame Myra

Hess Memorial Concert Series in Chicago broadcast live on WFMT, the largest classical music station in the USA.

Originally from Boston, Nicholas completed his bachelor studies at Boston University. After many summers at the Verbier Music Festival in Switzerland, he relocated to Europe in 2012 to be a member of the Berlin Philharmonic Karajan Akademie. Since August of 2013, he is now a fixed member of the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.

In addition to his numerous concert performances, Nicholas enthusiastically teaches music to private students and gives master classes. His own mentors include Edwin Barker and Matthew McDonald, among many others. Nicholas plays instruments by Gaetano Antoniazzi and James Cole, on loan from the Stichting Donateurs Koninklijk Concertgebouworkest.

http://nicholassantangeloschwartz.com/Nicholas_Schwartz_Double_Bassist.html

Joining Schwartz for the Sunday Concert is Anna Fedorova is one of the world's premier young pianists. From an early age, she demonstrated an innate musical maturity and astounding technical abilities. Her international concert career took off while she was only a child, and audiences around the world are stunned by the depth and power of her musical expression. Critics have praised Anna's signature "sweet modesty and wild expression," which rendered listeners "completely taken by surprise, compelled and astonished."

Anna has performed in some of the most prestigious concert halls of Europe, North and South America, and Asia, including the Amsterdam Concertgebouw where she has performed over 20 times, Carnegie Hall and the Zurich Tonhalle, among many others, with conductors such as Jaap Van Zweden and the Dallas Symphony Orchestra. She is also a frequent guest at Music Festivals such as the Verbier Festival (Switzerland), the IKIF (New York, USA), and the Rubinstein Piano Festival (Lodz, Poland).

Anna is a graduate of the Lysenko School of Music in Kiev (studio of Borys Fedorov). Additionally, Anna studied at the prestigious Accademia Pianistica in Imola, Italy with professor Leonid Margarius and the Royal College of Music with Norma Fisher. She has also received artistic guidance from world renowned pianists like Alfred Brendel, Menahem Pressler, and Andras Schiff.

<http://annafedorova.com/>

The Arts Council of Greater Kalamazoo was founded in 1966.

Its mission is to support, promote and fund the arts in the greater Kalamazoo area.

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